



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

February 7, 2007

Representative Naida L. Kaen, Chairman
House Science, Technology and Energy Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 304
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 428, an act relative to prohibiting the combustion of construction and demolition waste

Dear Chairman Kaen:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 428, which, as amended by the sponsors, would amend RSA 149-M, the Solid Waste Management Act, to prohibit the combustion of the wood component of construction and demolition debris. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) supports this bill.

During the last legislative session, DES supported HB 1433 (Chapter 186, Laws of 2006), extending the moratorium on the incineration of construction and demolition waste through December 31, 2007. In the Department's view, the best management practices for disposing of construction and demolition debris include a combination of aggressive processing to separate components that can safely and economically be re-used or recycled, and disposal of the residuals in state-of-the-art lined landfills. Protecting human health and the environment from the uncertain quality of emissions that may result from combustion of the wood component of construction and demolition debris is sound public policy that DES continues to support.

DES appreciates the opportunity to testify in favor of this bill. If you have any questions regarding this letter of testimony, please do not hesitate to call me at 271-2958 or Waste Management Division Director Tony Giunta at 271-2905.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Burack

Thomas S. Burack
Commissioner

cc: Members of the House Science, Technology & Energy Committee
Representatives Hamm, Knox, Phinizz, Harvey and Pilliod
Senators Burling, Fuller Clark, Janeway and Larsen